

## THE COMING GLORY OF THE LORD

The preparation for the Lord having His way, moving into and on with New Truth, is by deeds of repentance. This was the message of John the Baptist and of Christ at His first coming, and it is the message in the 7 Letters to the 7 Churches of today. The first Church nation rejected its Savior's teaching and the Preserver Himself. It was in about 595 B.C., when Ezekiel was shown the departure of the Glory of God and the reasons for it (Ezek.8-11). His Shekinah Glory left the Sanctuary nation and did not return until God incarnated in the baby Jesus.

Consider the parallels in the history of the Christian Church. The Lord said the first Church would drive Him from His Sanctuary by erecting and maintaining the idol image of jealousy. (They were as jealous of their "religion" as He was of His Word.) He said even a greater abomination was the secret thoughts and emotions, held and developed as if He could not see them. A greater abomination than that, He said, was the sympathy expressed toward a tailored Savior (Tammuz), tailored to become what they wanted in a Savior. But there was an abomination greater than that. It was the worship of the sun, a symbol, rather than the Author of it. Today it is the worship of the light of human intellectual attainment, academic enlightenment and of the manner of lifestyle preferred and chosen by the church members.

At this point the Word through Ezekiel interjects a separation and sealing of those who sigh and groan over the abominations. The final driving of the Lord from His Sanctuary (the people of the Church) is their unthinking faith in "preservation by association" - we have the Temple building (the true Church); we live in Jerusalem - in God's peace; we are His chosen people; He has no other choice.

It was during the era of 300 - 500 A.D. that the Christian Church began driving the Glory of the Lord from the Sanctuary. In parallel with the ancient Church pattern, that Glory will not return, until Christ's second coming. Even then, as before at the first coming, men will continue to blaspheme God (Rev.16:9,11,21).

is almost all forgotten, or put on the shelf? Why is it we will not yet take up the proper body discipline, the much prayer with fasting and the long meditation on new truths, as well as the old, so as to draw closer to His Glory? 7. When we compare ourselves to most other Christians, are we favorably impressed? Do we almost unconsciously pat ourselves on the back? Are we overlooking our own immaturity, as measured by the Father? Are we by-passing His call for total, all-out commitment to carrying out the Lord's Plan for the preserving of our whole being? Is there no place for repentance?

And why do we still favor picking up the books and pronouncements of men, Reverend and otherwise, hopefully to discover an ever so attractive short-cut into a perfect life? So far in this age, only two have seen and experienced the full light of God's Truth for this phase of training. Neither of them has written a book - so far as we know. Their pronouncements of pure Truth will first be heard just before the taking of the Firstfruits. Yet our loving Father has never left His Church without a prophet from Him. There were no prophets only during periods when there was no actual Church in being with which He could work. Still, when a people showed themselves ready for Truth, His prophet would appear.

We here have shown ourselves ready for some Truth, knowing it had to be New Truth - or we wouldn't be here. Have we since tired of the vigorous search for more new truth, and even more new truth, without neglecting that which has been revealed?

C. Gordon Wolcott

*And Jesus said, I tell you that to every one who gets (by his own efforts) and has, will more be given; but from the man who does not get and does not have (who has ignored the opportunity to gain), will be taken away even what he has. Lk. 19:26*

It is because He will not do what they want Him to do. The Jews required of Jesus that He set up a political Kingdom for their benefit. He would not. The bulk of Christians will require of Him that He give them ever increasing prosperity and comfort and freedom from interference. He will not, until a representative number, however many, will surrender their plans and their wills to cooperate with Christ. That is over-coming.

Always throughout 6000 years, our loving Father has been endeavoring to teach preservation to His children in a thick environment of death. In all that time, He has found only two in the first Church nation and two in the replacement Church who would fully listen and cooperate. Why are we so stuck on sickness and "accident" and pain and suffering and death? One would think that anyone would jump at any slightest opportunity to be rid of those curses.

Especially in the Great Tribulation time, advancement will be only among those who, with great determination and fortitude, tackle the besetting personal problems of the inner world. Only those will progress who constantly move toward taking control, within our Keeper's plan (His Kingdom) and according to His priorities (His righteousness).

Look with me to the 7 Letters. 1. Losing the first or primary love exhibits in a waning of enthusiasm for the Lord's Plan, shifting the enthusiasm elsewhere. 2. Affliction and distress result from viewing the detail in preservation teachings as legalisms and pressure. 3. It is this pressure which leads to idolizing an easier way and perhaps whatever leaders facilitate it. 4. The sliding out from under that Word which grows uncomfortable brings tolerance of less strict doctrine and forgiveness of the toning down of Truth - which leads into complacency. 5. Teaching upon teaching has been and is being offered. We should be vibrant in health and in strength, with joy overflowing. Is the pace too rapid for some not fully awake? 6. We see there is but little power in standing against every evil and in convicting others of the reality of God's Truth in our midst. Is it because in a day, or a week, or a month each new truth

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